(d) the reasons for the said Bill not being passed all these months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The National Common Minimum Programme stipulates enactment of a Reservation Act to codify the provisions of reservation for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(b) and (c) A Bill namely the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes (Reservation in Posts & Services) Bill, 2004 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 22.12.2004.

(d) The Bill was referred to the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee. A Group of Ministers has been constituted to examine recommendations.

Banning of recruitment

1871. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SCs lost their opportunities because of Government's policy banning recruitment in Government services and public sector; and

(b) if so, the steps contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Reservation to Scheduled Castes in services under the Central Government continues to be provided as per percentage of reservation prescribed for them. Besides, there is no ban on recruitment in the Central Government and a large number of SCs have been recruited to fill up back log vacancies.

Complaints received by Ministry

†1872. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received in regard to Government and its undertaking by the Department from 1st April 2004 to December 2006;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.